

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE MEDIA RELATIONS DIVISION

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Armed Robbery Suspect Charged with Attempted Murder of Two LAPD Officers

An armed robbery suspect who jumped from a car and allegedly fired at police during a pursuit was charged today with attempted murder of police officers and other counts, the District Attorney's Office announced.

Kirkham Gastelum, 30 (dob 5-10-83), is awaiting arraignment this afternoon at Los Angeles Superior Court, Van Nuys Branch, in Department 100. He is charged in case LA 074633 with two counts of attempted murder of a peace officer, two counts of second degree robbery, one count of second degree commercial burglary and two counts of possession of a firearm by a felon, said Deputy District Attorney Michael Blake with the Crimes Against Peace Officers Unit. The complaint includes personal use of a handgun allegation against Gastelum.

Prosecutors will ask that his bail be set at \$2.4 million.

Gastelum and a second suspect, Tyler Gilson, 23, allegedly robbed a medical marijuana dispensary of cash and product in the 7300 block of Reseda Boulevard, near Sherman Way, on Monday. LAPD officers responded to a robbery in progress and spotted two suspects fleeing in a black SUV and gave chase.

During the pursuit, Gastelum allegedly hopped out of the vehicle, opened fire on police and fled on foot. He was arrested later. Gilson allegedly drove away but crashed the SUV a short time later. He was arrested, but was released on bail. He is not due in court today.

If convicted, Gastelum is facing up to life in state prison, Blake said.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Annually, the <u>Los Angeles County</u> District Attorney's Office prosecutes more than 60,000 felonies and 140,000 misdemeanor crimes.